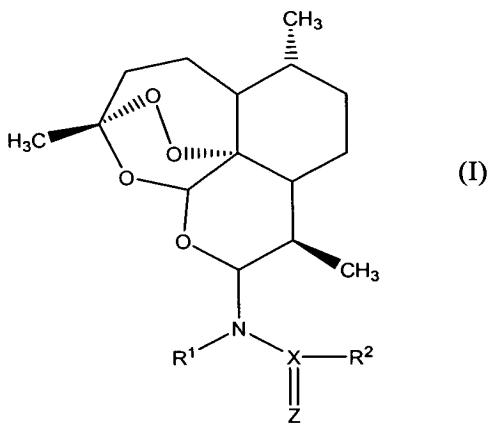


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A compound of the general formula I:



or a salt thereof, or a solvate thereof, or a solvate of a salt thereof,

in which

R¹ represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or aralkyl group;

X represents a carbon atom, a sulfur atom, a sulfoxide group S=O or a group PR³, P-O-R³ or P-N(R⁴)-R³ where R³ and R⁴ each independently represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or aralkyl group;

Z represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or a group NR⁵ where R⁵ represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or aralkyl group; and

R² represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or aralkyl group, or a group N(R⁶)₂, NHNH₂, NR⁶NHR⁶ or NR⁶N(R⁶)₂, or a group OR⁶ or SR⁶ where each R⁶ independently represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or aralkyl group, or a 10a-dihydroartemisinyl group, or R² represents a group OR⁷ or NR⁶R⁷ where R⁶ represents a group as defined above and R⁷ represents a bond attached as a substituent to R⁵ together with the ~~interjacent~~ group -X=Z- forming an optionally substituted heterocyclic group where Z represents a group NR⁵, or R⁷ represents a bond attached as a substituent to R¹ together with the ~~interjacent~~ group -N-X(=Z)- forming an optionally substituted heterocyclic group.

2. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 1 in which R¹ represents a hydrogen atom, a methyl group, ethyl group or longer straight-chain alkyl group or a branched alkyl group containing up to 9 carbon atoms, ~~preferably a hydrogen atom, a methyl group or an ethyl group~~.
3. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 1 or 2 in which X represents a carbon atom, a sulfur atom, or a group PR³, P-O-R³ or P-N(R⁴)-R³ where R³ and R⁴ each independently represent a C₆₋₁₈ aryl group or a 5- to 10-membered C-linked heteroaryl group or a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclyl-C₁₋₆ alkyl group optionally

substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, hydroxyl, C₁₋₄ alkyl, C₂₋₄ alkenyl, C₁₋₄ haloalkyl, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, C₁₋₄ haloalkoxy, amino, C₁₋₄ alkylamino, di(C₁₋₄ alkyl)amino and carboxyl groups.

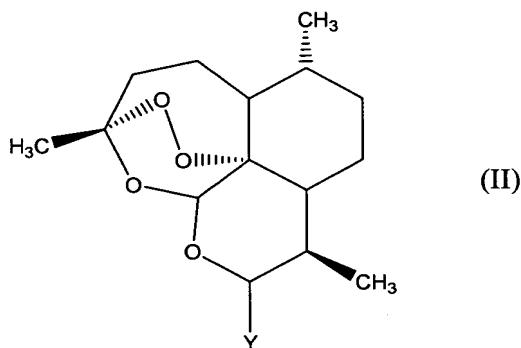
4. (Currently Amended) A compound according to ~~any claims~~ **claim 1 to 3** in which Z represents an oxygen atom, or a group NR⁵ where R⁵ represents a hydrogen atom, a methyl group, ethyl group or longer straight-chain alkyl group or branched alkyl group containing up to 9 carbon atoms or a C₆₋₁₈ aryl group or a 5- to 10-membered C-linked heteroaryl group or a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclyl-C₁₋₆ alkyl group optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, hydroxyl, C₁₋₄ alkyl, C₂₋₄, alkenyl, C₁₋₄ haloalkyl, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, C₁₋₄ haloalkoxy, amino, C₁₋₄ alkylamino, di(C₁₋₄ alkyl)amino and carboxyl groups.

5. (Currently Amended) A compound according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ **claim 1** in which R² represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or aralkyl group, or a group OR⁶, SR⁶, NH₂, NHR⁶, or N(R⁶)₂ where each R⁶ independently represents a methyl group, ethyl group or longer straight-chain alkyl group or branched alkyl group containing up to 9 carbon atoms atoms, or is a C₆₋₁₈ aryl group or a 5- to 10-membered C-linked heteroaryl group or a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclyl-C₁₋₆ alkyl group optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, hydroxyl, C₁₋₄ alkyl, C₂₋₄ alkenyl, C₁₋₄ haloalkyl, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, C₁₋₄ haloalkoxy, amino, C₁₋₄ alkylamino, di(C₁₋₄ alkyl)amino and carboxyl groups.

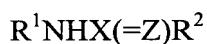
6. (Currently Amended) A compound according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 in which R¹ represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or aralkyl group, ~~preferably a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group, more preferably a hydrogen atom or a methyl group or an ethyl group~~; X represents a carbon, phosphorus or sulfur atom, ~~preferably a carbon or sulfur atom~~; Z represents an oxygen atom or a group NR⁵ in where R⁵ represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or aralkyl group, ~~preferably an oxygen atom~~; and R² represents a group OR⁶, SR⁶, NH₂, NHR⁶, or NH², or N(R⁶)₂ where each R⁶ independently represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or aralkyl group, or a 10 α -dihydroartemisinyl group, ~~preferably a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl or aryl group, more preferably R² represents a group NH₂, or a group NHR⁶ where R⁶ represents an alkyl group, or a group N(R⁶)₂ where R⁶ represents identical or differentiated alkyl groups~~.

7. A compound according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 in which R¹ represents a hydrogen atom, X represents a sulfoxide group S=O, Z represents an oxygen atom, and R² represents a group NH₂, or in which R¹ represents a hydrogen atom, X represents a carbon atom, Z represents a group NH, and R² represents a group NHR⁶ where R⁶ represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or aralkyl group; or in which R¹ represents a hydrogen atom, X represents a carbon atom, Z represents an oxygen atom, and R² represents a group NHR⁶ where R⁶ is a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or aralkyl group.

8. A process for the preparation of a compound of the general formula I according to any of the preceding claims **claim 1** which comprises reacting a compound of the general formula II **comprising an atremisinin nucleus:**



in which Y represents a group containing comprising an oxygen atom attached to the carbon atom of the artemisinin nucleus and also to a hydrogen atom or trimethylsilyl group, with a suitable halogenating agent to form a compound of the general formula II in which Y represents a halogen atom; and, if desired, reacting the compound of general formula II thus formed in which Y represents a halogen atom with an amine of the general formula:



where R^1 , R^2 , X and Z are as defined ~~any of the preceding claims~~ in claim 1 to form a compound of ~~general~~ the formula I.

9. (Canceled.)

10. A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a carrier and, as active ingredient, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to any of claims claim 1 to 7.

11. (Canceled.)

12. (Canceled.)

13. A method for treating a disease caused by infection with a parasite which comprises administering to a host in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to any of claims claim 1 to 7.

14. (New) A compound according to claim 2 in which R¹ represents a hydrogen atom, a methyl group or an ethyl group.

15. (New) A compound according to claim 6 in which R¹ represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group; X represents a carbon or sulfur atom; Z represents an oxygen atom; R⁶ represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl or aryl group; or R² represents a group NH₂, or a group NHR⁶ where R⁶ represents an alkyl group, or a group N(R⁶)₂ where R⁶ represents identical or different alkyl groups.

16. (New) A compound according to claim 15 in which R¹ represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl group or an ethyl group; or R² represents a group NH₂, or a group NHR⁶ where R⁶ represents an alkyl group, or a group N(R⁶)₂ where R⁶ represents identical or different alkyl groups.